



Kathleen Sebelius, Governor
Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND ENVIRONMENT

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KDHE Issues Conditional Permit for APAC-KS, Inc. C&D Landfill in Overland Park

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has issued a conditional permit for the APAC-KS construction-demolition landfill in Overland Park to continue waste disposal activities only until December 2010.

APAC Kansas, Inc must submit revised design and operating plans to KDHE by April 30, 2008. Under the terms of the conditional permit, the company must reduce the level of water within the landfill to less than 12 inches by December 31, 2008.

The facility must then cease receiving waste on or before December 31, 2010 and install a low-permeability cap by June 30, 2011. These dates are about ten years sooner than would have been required under a proposed plan submitted to KDHE by APAC-KS, Inc.

“After carefully considering comments from the public as well as our technical study of this site, we have determined it is necessary to limit the future period of operation of this facility in order to protect the health of citizens living and working nearby,” stated Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary of KDHE.

By installing the cap earlier as required by KDHE, the generation of hydrogen sulfide gas from the landfill will be reduced. Hydrogen sulfide is toxic and flammable, and produces a pungent rotten egg odor. It is rare for landfills to produce the gas, which can be generated when certain kinds of waste, such as gypsum wallboard or sheetrock, sit in standing water for extended periods of time.

After the cap is installed in 2011, the facility will be permanently closed. And, allowing disposal operations to continue through 2010 should enable the facility to achieve final site contours with a maximum elevation of 1,010 feet above sea level, allowing for effective stormwater management after closure.

In October 2007, KDHE completed its review of the company’s permit modification application, in which it requested to expand the final elevation from 1000 to 1024 feet, and the landfill area from 50 to 82 acres. The new permit will allow waste to be disposed in the requested 82 acres because waste is already present in much of the area, and excavating waste from areas outside the initial 50 acres could result in more releases of hydrogen sulfide gas.

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Releases of the gas resulted in numerous complaints in 2005. At the direction of KDHE, APAC-KS, Inc. has taken steps to reduce the risk to people living and working near the landfill, including the installation of a continuous gas monitoring and alarm system.

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As the state's environmental protection and public health agency, KDHE promotes responsible choices to protect the health and environment for all Kansans.

Through education, direct services and the assessment of data and trends, coupled with policy development and enforcement, KDHE will improve health and quality of life. We prevent illness, injuries and foster a safe and sustainable environment for the people of Kansas.